

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1 A method and apparatus for preventing thermo-mechanical damage to
2 an electrostatic discharge (ESD) protection device is disclosed. The method
3 and apparatus of the invention use materials with superior thermo-mechanical
4 properties, in particular, the Coefficient of Thermal Expansion (CTE), melting
5 temperature, tensile strength and fracture toughness. The thermo-mechanical
6 energy absorber materials are incorporated in, or replace, components of the
7 ESD device that are susceptible to thermo-mechanical stress and cracking
8 due to localized heating and thermal expansion.